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BOOK REVIEWS.

AMERICAN LAW—A TREATISE ON THE JURISPRUDENCE, CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES. By *James DeWitt Andrews*. Callaghan & Co., Chicago. Sheep, pp. 1245.

This work is what its author intended it to be,—the “American Blackstone.” The plan is analytical, being an application of the principles of analysis applied by Gaius and Justinian in the Institutes. The outline of the work shows the whole body of the law in logical order and relation. The treatment consists of a presentation of the origin of rules, together with the principles on which they depend, and their present application, making it at once elementary and scientific. The citations are of leading cases, when the rules were formulated, together with the modern ruling cases in which the rule is applied or rejected, and with an abundance of collateral citations. The value of the latter, including, as it does, five thousand cases, is greatly enhanced by judicious references to the American Decisions, American Reports, American State Reports, Lawyers’ Reports Annotated, and Reporter System, making it an American law treatise eminently practical and peculiarly adapted to the needs of busy professional men. Blackstone’s work was written prior to the American Revolution, and although today it remains a model of classical elegance, its value as a practical law treatise is greatly diminished, owing to our changed social, political and industrial institutions. The law of real property is no longer such an important element in determining the rights and liabilities of men as it was when Blackstone wrote. The Commentaries of Chancellor Kent are open to the objection that, being written while the American law was in its formative condition, they do not state the law in the manner of definite, precise legal rules. It is to meet these requirements of the lawyer and the student, which the works of Kent and Blackstone, valuable though they are, do not meet, that Andrews’ American Law is particularly adapted.

AN EXPOSITION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF ESTOPPEL BY MISREPRESENTATION. By *John S. Ewart*. Callaghan & Co. 1 vol., pp. 600.

This treatise contains the result of patient and laborious research in a very confused and obscure subject. Since the application of estoppel is no less wide than the field of law, classification of the individual instances is an immense task. The method pursued by this author is inductive. He finds out from the cases what the law is, then arranges the principles in a harmonious system. The treatment of the subject is bold and original; in fact, more in conformance with modern scientific thought than that of most law books. This gives it a peculiar value to the student, while the great number of cases made accessible make it valuable for the practitioner.

ELEMENTS OF JURISPRUDENCE—Ninth Edition—Edited by *Thomas Erskine Holland, D.C.L.*, of Lincoln’s Inn, Barrister at Law. Oxford University Press (American Branch). 1 vol., cloth, pp. 407.

The legal fraternity is to be congratulated on the re-edition of this authoritative work, a comparison of which with the ninth edition shows a thorough revision and the addition of new matter of considerable interest. The mere fact that the book has gone through nine editions in twenty years is a sufficient guaranty of its excellence. The view of the author is not only very comprehensive but his researches are also up to date, as is shown by his references to The Hague Conference and his frequent citations from the new Civil Code of

Germany, which came into operation in January of this year. He has traced the development both of positive law and legal theory in the various countries in a clear and concise method, in which he has been followed by various textbook writers on this important topic. It is very evident that he has thought out the whole subject, and with this preparation pursues a straight course with few digressions.

LAW OF BILLS AND NOTES—Third Edition. *Charles P. Morton*. West Publishing Co.

The author has put into very compact and understandable language a most difficult and complex subject. To the average law student, bills and notes present the *pons asinorum* of his studies. The adoption of the Hornbook system for this subject will be highly appreciated by the profession. In addition to this, the book is well indexed and thoroughly up to date.

MANUAL OF CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE—Third Edition. By *Emory Washburn, LL.D.* Callaghan & Co., Chicago. 1 vol., cloth, pp. 268.

This book has followed the general arrangement of the two previous editions, with whatever changes were necessary to bring it down to date in every respect. Its object is to furnish the student and practicing lawyer with a compact arrangement of the vital principles of criminal law and its methods of procedure. On account of the small size of the book, no attempt has been made to note the changes in the common law brought about by statute. The foot-notes, although not very copious, endeavor to give one or two leading cases on each rule of law stated in the text. The second part, which relates to criminal procedure, is gone into more fully and should prove of great value to lawyers. Altogether, the book seems to fill the same place in its particular subject that "Robinson's Elementary Law" occupies in respect to the whole subject of common law.

OUTLINE STUDY OF LAW—Third Edition. By *Isaac Franklin Russell, D.C.L., LL.D.*, Professor of Law in New York University. Baker, Voorhis & Co. 1 vol., law canvas, pp. 344.

It is what it claims to be—plus. The outline of the law is there, with much of the substance. So much skill has been brought to bear in selecting the matters to be treated of in the lectures, that one gets a rounded-out, satisfying conception of the subject. It leaves in the mind a desire for more. Where it is known, it will be the book first turned to when one first turns to the law.

REGISTERING TITLE TO LAND.—A Series of Lectures Delivered at Yale by *Jacques Dumas, LL.D.* Callaghan & Co., Chicago. 1 vol., buckram, pp. 102.

This work consists of lectures upon a subject to which comparatively little attention has been given heretofore in the United States, but which has proved so successful in Europe and Australia that there is little doubt but that it will become a subject of very great practical importance with us, and one of which it will be necessary for every well-informed lawyer to possess some knowledge. This need is met in a most satisfactory manner by this book, in spite of its limited size. In condensed but clear form, it shows what registration of land title means and gives its history in the countries in which it has been tried, up to the present day. The book is the result of the long and careful study of a thoroughly trained and well-balanced mind. The arrangement is very satisfactory, clearness being one of its strong characteristics. In spite of the necessary condensation, the book is very readable. It must become an authority upon the subject it presents, and it will do much to establish in this country the reputation as a deep student and clear thinker of one already eminent upon the Continent.